

**Amendments to the Claims**

The following listing of Claims will replace the claims, as originally filed.

**Listing of Claims**

1. (Currently Amended)     A ~~V~~valve assembly for use with a dispensing apparatus, the valve assembly comprising:

    a valve;

    a nozzle assembly ~~lever arranged to open the valve to dispense product~~; and

a collar which in use engages with a container of the dispensing apparatus with which the valve assembly is used and surrounds the nozzle assembly, the collar including variable spacer means adapted to contact the nozzle assembly when the nozzle assembly is displaced in a lateral direction and arranged to limit the lateral travel of the nozzle assembly lever by a variable amount according to the direction in which the nozzle assembly is displaced relative position of the lever and the variable spacer means.

2. (Currently Amended)     A ~~V~~valve assembly according to claim 1 wherein the valve is a tilt valve including a valve stem, ~~and the lever is coupled to the valve stem.~~

3.        CANCELLED

4. (Currently Amended)     A ~~V~~valve assembly according to claim 1 further including a ~~lever~~nozzle, the lever being integral with the nozzle assembly.

5.        CANCELLED

6.        CANCELLED

7.        CANCELLED

8.        CANCELLED

9.        CANCELLED

10. (Currently Amended)     A ~~V~~valve assembly according to claim 1 ~~7~~ wherein the collar is adapted to press fit on a ~~the~~ rolled flange of a standard pressurised container.

11. CANCELLED

12. CANCELLED

13. CANCELLED

14. (Currently Amended) A Vvalve assembly according to claim 1 ~~[[4]]~~ wherein the nozzle serves as a ~~the~~ lever.

15. CANCELLED

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17. CANCELLED

18. (Currently Amended) A Vvalve assembly according to claim 17 wherein the variable spacer means ~~spacer portions~~ comprise a plurality of recessed portions of the collar of different depths, each recessed portion being adapted to contact the nozzle assembly or lever when the nozzle assembly or lever is displaced towards said recessed portion.

19. (Currently Amended) A Vvalve assembly according to claim 17 wherein the variable spacer means comprises a cam surface of the collar adapted to contact the nozzle assembly or lever when the nozzle assembly or lever is displaced in a lateral direction ~~laterally~~ and provide a limit of lateral travel, the limit of lateral travel varying with the direction in which the nozzle assembly or lever is displaced.

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